

# We Go Gardening

Newsletter of the West Chicago Garden Club

Volume 21 Issue 11 November 2017



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**Meeting Date: November 16**

**Meeting Location:**

**Faith Community Church**

**910 Main St, West Chicago**

**Meeting Time:**

**6:45PM Annual Dinner**

*and*

**Garden Dollar Auction!**

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## November 16: Annual Dinner & Garden Dollar Auction

**The auction:** We have several items for the Garden Dollar silent auction that will take place before, during, and after our dinner.

**For dinner,** a main dish, beverages, and tableware will be provided. Please bring a salad, side dish, or dessert to share, arriving no later than 6:30 p.m.

**For the auction,** bring your Garden Dollars with you—they are the only currency that will be accepted to redeem auction items. 25 Garden Dollars will be given to each attendee as they enter the meeting.

**Do you still have uncollected Garden Dollars from this year's activities?** Figure up how much you're owed (see page 5) and collect them from the welcome table as you enter. Renew your membership at the November meeting, and earn 75 Garden Dollars!

**Do you still have items to donate for the auction?** Anyone wishing to donate to the auction may leave smaller items on the back porch of Keith Letsche's house, 215 East Washington Street, beginning on Nov. 13th, or bring to the meeting!

## Recap of October Program

Kim Hartman got the highest rating possible on everyone of the 28 evaluations that were completed after the program!!! The comments were all positive as well: "excellent speaker, fun, knowledgeable, enthusiastic", just to name a few words used to describe Kim. Even the Quiz was viewed positively and most said they learned a lot from it. While I like PowerPoint presentations, I really like it when the speaker talks directly to us. Seems like more of a conversation is possible. The lovely, festive, Fall containers went home with lucky members and Billie was fortunate to win the magnificent fragrant "Sweet Annie" wreath made by Dorothy OConnor. I'd say a good time was had by all and the treats were scary good!

-Billie



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## Club Information

[www.westchicagogardenclub.org](http://www.westchicagogardenclub.org)  
West Chicago Garden Club  
P. O. Box 313, West Chicago, IL 60186  
[westchicagogardenclub@gmail.com](mailto:westchicagogardenclub@gmail.com)

### Membership Information

Dues for 2017: Individual: \$15 Family: \$25

### Board Meetings

2nd Thursday each month at 7 p.m.

### Regular Meeting Location

Faith Community Church  
910 Main Street, West Chicago

### 2017 WCGC BOARD:

President:

Dick Darrah, 630-584-1900, [info@bwdarrah.com](mailto:info@bwdarrah.com)

Vice President:

Keith Letsche, 630-293-0192, [keithletsche@aol.com](mailto:keithletsche@aol.com)

Treasurer:

Barb Darrah, 630-584-1900, [info@bwdarrah.com](mailto:info@bwdarrah.com)

Secretary:

Annette Wulffe, 630-462-0208, [annettewulffe@yahoo.com](mailto:annettewulffe@yahoo.com)

Program Director:

Billie Childress, 630-231-1791, [billiedc@sbcglobal.net](mailto:billiedc@sbcglobal.net)

Newsletter:

Melissa Ferguson, [melissabirch@gmail.com](mailto:melissabirch@gmail.com)

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## News from Kruse

Angie Sadauskas

Fall is my least favorite season. Everything is either drooping or falling, leaves are underfoot, plants are spent. On many days the colored leaves hang limply, dripping rain. It's the last gasp before winter. At the start of September my neighbor Ed is sure to alert me on the kind of fall color to expect. It depends on whether we had too much or too little rain, whether it has been too hot or too cold. For some reason Ed thinks this is of great interest since I must be eagerly awaiting the seasonal display. My other neighbor has two huge sugar maples. Luckily keeping those maple leaves in his yard are a line of Norway spruces. I am very pleased his fall color is in his yard since by November he is knee deep in leaves.



These three trees at the Kruse House were planted by the GC. Left to right: cypress, dawn redwood, ginkgo.

At the Kruse garden there are three very large Norway maples to the side of the house. They turn a beautiful golden color for about two weeks. Then the golden color is smothering the lawn below. Better the ginkgo for fall color. The leaves are small and golden and very light on the grass.

My favorite trees are evergreens—towering spruces, feathery pines, stately cedars. I even like the larches, cypresses, for their needles are small and they actually self-mulch. Granted a bit of room is needed for these but many come in any height or shape and one or two can always be accommodated into the landscape. A line of stately evergreen trees is magnificent. The Dawn redwood at the Kruse garden is well-grown and very stately. The weeping cypress has very sweeping branches that hold snow in winter and looks wonderful. I like evergreen trees because they have four season interest. They are never bare as deciduous trees with their spindly branches that wave and crack in the wind. I have never thought tree bark can pass for winter interest for who clomps out in winter to get up close to look at tree bark. A deciduous tree provides no screen in winter, shelters no birds under its branches from winter winds. And certainly does not have that clean and bracing smell

Give me a pine, a spruce, green all year, the best color ever, complimentary to every color in the spectrum.

Angie





## Thanksgiving...A Time To Reflect

As we approach the hustle and bustle of the Holiday season, I wanted to stop and give thanks to our outstanding 2017 Board of Directors.

**Dick Darrah, President**

**Keith Letsche, Vice President**

**Billie Childress, Program Director**

**Barb Darrah, Treasurer**

**Annette Wulffe, Secretary**

**Melissa Ferguson, Newsletter**

In addition, a special shout out to those individuals who went above and beyond in making the annual spring 'West Chicago Garden Club Plant Sale at Blooming Fest' a reality with their long hours and lots of hard work:

**Billie Childress, Dick Darrah, Kerry Perry, and Angie Sadauskas**

They, along with so many of dedicated club members, worked so very hard in keeping the West Chicago Garden Club, an organization that began in 1925, an asset to the community and an organization all can be proud of.

Although one can't possibly know the number of people our Garden Club has impacted (from young novice gardeners in their new West Chicago home to seasoned master gardeners), you can be sure our organization has made a difference.

Please Note: at our October meeting, there was discussion regarding the viability in continuing the annual spring 'Blooming Fest' plant sale. Some members voiced that they would like to discontinue the plant sale due to the enormity of the work involved. Historically, the majority of this big job has landed on the shoulders of the members who I have acknowledged above. Others, like me, want to see this annual event continue with some changes. We will pass out a survey at our November meeting and review your ideas. In the meantime, please give it some thought so you are prepared to submit your comments on the survey form.

-Barb Bizzarri



We enjoyed these lovely treats at the October meeting!

## Garden Dollars — remember to collect them!

WCGC distributes tokens (Garden Dollars) to members who participate in club activities. At the **November meeting**, you will be able to use them at the **auction to bid on fabulous prizes**. Here's how to earn them:

To receive your Garden Dollars after earning them, pick them up at special events from the event organizer, or see club officers at the information table at any meeting, and let them know what you've earned.

Volunteer for workdays, plant sale or garden contest (1 to 4 hrs , >4hrs)	75 - 150	Donate plants for the sale <50, 50-149, ≥150	75, 200, 300
Donate pots	50	Write newsletter article	100
Donate snack for meeting	75	Donate door prize	50
Set up or clean up meeting	25	Meeting attendance	25
Trip attendance	25	<b>Pay dues before Garden Dollar Auction in Nov 2017</b>	<b>75</b>
Donate to Kruse House	50	<b>Pay dues before February 2nd</b>	<b>50</b>

**Pick up the Garden Dollars you've earned before the auction in November!**